

What is claimed is:

1. An information providing apparatus for providing an information receiver with an information providing service, comprising:

information accumulating means for accumulating information to be provided;

electronic mail receiving means for receiving an electronic mail; and

information providing control means for extracting desired information from the information accumulating means to start the information providing service for the information receiver having transmitted an electronic mail to an electronic mail address by which the information to be provided by the information providing service is identified or given a telephone call to a telephone number by which the information to be provided by the information providing service is identified upon receipt of the electronic mail by the electronic mail receiving means.

2. An information providing apparatus for providing an information receiver with an information providing service, comprising:

access means for accessing information on a web page located at a URL transmitted from an information provider;

electronic mail receiving means for receiving an

electronic mail; and

information providing control means for obtaining the information accessed by the access means to start the information providing service for the information receiver having transmitted an electronic mail to an electronic mail address by which the information to be provided by the information providing service is identified or given a telephone call to a telephone number by which the information to be provided by the information providing service is identified upon receipt of the electronic mail by the electronic mail receiving means.

3. An information providing apparatus for providing an information receiver with an information providing service, comprising:

information accumulating means for accumulating information to be provided;

electronic mail receiving means for receiving an electronic mail; and

information providing control means for extracting desired information from the information accumulating means to start the information providing service for the information receiver having transmitted the electronic mail upon receipt of the electronic mail by the electronic mail receiving means.

4. An information providing apparatus for providing an information receiver with an information providing service, comprising:

information accumulating means for accumulating information to be provided;

telephone dial signal receiving means for receiving a telephone dial signal; and

information providing control means for extracting desired information from the information accumulating means to start the information providing service for the information receiver having transmitted the telephone dial signal upon receipt of the telephone dial signal by the telephone dial signal receiving means.

5. An information providing apparatus for providing an information receiver with an information providing service, comprising:

information accumulating means for accumulating information to be provided;

electronic mail receiving means for receiving an electronic mail; and

information providing control means for identifying the information receiver having transmitted the electronic mail by an electronic mail address contained in the electronic mail and extracting desired information from the information





electronic mail receiving means for receiving an electronic mail; and

information providing control means for extracting desired information from the information accumulating means to start the information providing service for the information receiver having transmitted an electronic mail to an electronic mail address by which the information to be provided by the information providing service is identified or given a telephone call to a telephone number by which the information to be provided by the information providing service is identified upon receipt of the electronic mail by the electronic mail receiving means.

11. A recording medium for use in providing an information receiver with an information providing service, comprising, as stored therein, a program for realizing the information providing service by using:

access means for accessing information on a web page located at a URL transmitted from an information provider;

electronic mail receiving means for receiving an electronic mail; and

information providing control means for obtaining the information accessed by the access means to start the information providing service for the information receiver having transmitted an electronic mail to an electronic mail

address by which the information to be provided by the information providing service is identified or given a telephone call to a telephone number by which the information to be provided by the information providing service is identified upon receipt of the electronic mail by the electronic mail receiving means.

12. A recording medium for use in providing an information receiver with an information providing service, comprising, as stored therein, a program for realizing the information providing service by using:

information accumulating means for accumulating information to be provided;

electronic mail receiving means for receiving an electronic mail; and

information providing control means for extracting desired information from the information accumulating means to start the information providing service for the information receiver having transmitted the electronic mail upon receipt of the electronic mail by the electronic mail receiving means.

13. A recording medium for use in providing an information receiver with an information providing service, comprising, as stored therein, a program for realizing the information providing service by using:

information accumulating means for accumulating information to be provided;

telephone dial signal receiving means for receiving a telephone dial signal; and

information providing control means for extracting desired information from the information accumulating means to start the information providing service for the information receiver having transmitted the telephone dial signal upon receipt of the telephone dial signal by the telephone dial signal receiving means.